

From: michellesmith4@cox.net  
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 8:52 PM  
To: NOP Livestock  
Subject: Organics the same as Factory !!!!!!!

Attachments: ATTACHMENT.TXT

To whom it may concern,

I am writing you in spite of a lack of time to do so.

My name is Michelle Smith and I am a wife, mother of 3 and homemaker....among many other titles. Through the witnessing of degeneration of the people in my surrounding communities, my own community, friends, family, loved ones, myself and my children I have chosen a CLEAR path of as natural a life style as I am able to attain. This involves all that is natural and none of what is not. It began with eliminating all food that is considered "conventional". And from there it grew. It grew beyond myself and my family. You see when the laws of nature are broken there are consequences. And when the laws of nature are followed there are rewards. Health is one of the rewards that I have found. This VERY BASIC truth has been learned and is now practiced through the many people that I associate with. Because the rewards are infectious, everyone wants some.

Today a truth that I have learned is that I can not trust the term "ORGANIC". A term that I have taught my children to subscribe to. And now I shall teach them different as well as spread the word to as many people as I can. I do believe in learning about the integrity of the companies that I do business with. But I would like to know that the big dogs of organic councils are FOR preserving the practice of ORGANICS as well as the meaning of organic. Not to pervert, contort or deplete the term, it's definition or it's practice.

I can spend time learning the who's who of industries and who's in cahoots with who....or I can do MORE of what it is I have started to do this spring....I've been buying direct from the small organic farmers themselves. And I know their integrity, I watch it in practice. It's more than just the dollar bill. It's about their community in which they are more and more, thriving in. Before this year I knew no one who belonged to a co-op of any sort. This year, I know at least 18 who are involved in food co-ops direct from the farms.

So, am I soon to take a trip to the market with my children where when they pick up a product to suggest we get some, they show me "Look Mommy, it says ORGANIC, it's good!" and I will NOW be explaining to them how to discern between companies that say ORGANIC....and companies that MEAN ORGANIC.

Organic Farming Standards ARE NOT THE SAME AS Factory Farming Standards. I know when I buy what I buy if it is grass fed, free range, organic, supplemented and so on. Myself as well as many

others will not be fooled.

I cringe at feed lot cattle being fed GMO's the lack of pasture, natural life and/or drugs that have been used on them....never mind that you think that a product of such animals can or should be labeled ORGANIC.

No place including Wal-mart will receive my business just because something is labeled organic. A place for cheep plastic crap that has wholesome organic foods.....I don't think so. If it looks cheep, feels plastic and smells like crap.....chances are it's all of the above.

Sincerely a woman who is involved and upset,

Michelle Smith